APPLICATION NO. 120-25410

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

1) Kindly replace the paragraph starting on Page 1, lines 10-14 with the following:

Real-time process control systems were first implemented within a single software program executing on a single computer system. As the need to monitor and control more physical devices increased, the number and the complexity of the software programs required to accomplish this task also increased.

IN THE CLAIMS:

- 1) Kindly rewrite Claim 19 as follows:
- 19. (Amended) A system for validating an interface of a dynamically linkable component, comprising:

an interface identifier, coupled to said dynamically linkable component, that represents said interface of said dynamically linkable component; and

[a] an interface verifier that employs said interface identifier to determine a compatibility of said interface of said dynamically linkable component.

25 (Amended) A method of validating an interface of a dynamically linkable component, comprising:

coupling an interface identifier to said dynamically linkable component; and employing said interface identifier to determine a compatibility of said interface of said dynamically linkable component.

- 3) Kindly rewrite Claim 31 as follows:
- 31. (Amended) A real-time process control system, comprising:
- a plurality of sensors and controllable devices;

a controller, coupled to said plurality of sensors and controllable devices, that executes software having at least first and second dynamically linkable components to coordinate an operation of said plurality of sensors and controllable devices;

an interface identifier, coupled to said first dynamically linkable component, that represents an interface of said first dynamically linkable component; and

[a] an interface verifier that employs said interface identifier to determine a compatibility of said interface of said first and second dynamically linkable components.